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ACTION AF-01

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	EUR-01	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	JUSE-00	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00
	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00
	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-01	/039W	
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FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3951  
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
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AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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BRUSSELS PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR KRUEGER

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, FR, BY  
SUBJECT: FRENCH INITIATIVE ON RWANDA: BURUNDI DEMANDS

REF: STATE 163237

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER  
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)  
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 21 JUN 2016  
DATE/CASE ID: 06 MAY 2011 201005065

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2. SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO CHARGE'S DEMARCHE THIS MORNING ON U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE FRENCH INITIATIVE IN RWANDA, FORMIN NGENDAHAYO STATED BURUNDI'S POSITION SUCCINCTLY. BURUNDI LEADERS HAVE COMMITTED TO ASSIST ACTIVELY ON THE POLITICAL LEVEL TO BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION AND WILL PARTICIPATE ALONG WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN ADDRESSING RWANDA'S NEEDS FOR HUMANITARIAN RELIEF SUPPLIES.

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END SUMMARY.

3. CHARGE CALLED ON STATE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS JEAN MARIE NGENDAHAYO THIS MORNING TO DELIVER DEMARCHE ON U.S. SUPPORT FOR FRENCH INTERVENTION IN RWANDA. DUE TO PRESS OF BUSINESS YESTERDAY, THE MINISTER WAS NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL THIS A.M. CHARGE STRESSED OUR PRIMARY CONSIDERATION IS AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE KILLINGS IN RWANDA AND TO PROTECT AND SAVE THOSE STILL LIVING. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE EFFORT IS MULTINATIONAL NOT AIMED AT INTERVENING IN THE FIGHTING OR IN SUPPORT OF THE GOR OR RPF. THE INITIATIVE, HE ADDED, IS TO BRIDGE THE GAP UNTIL THE UN PKO ARRIVES.

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4. THE MINISTER SAID THAT FRENCH INTERVENTION HAD BEEN CONSIDERED CAREFULLY BY THE BURUNDI CABINET ON JUNE 17 AND AGAIN ON JUNE 19 BY THE NATIONAL CRISIS COMMISSION (COMITE DE SUIVI). HE THEN SPELLED OUT CLEARLY THE BURUNDI POSITION:

-- THEY MAINTAIN THEIR STRICT NEUTRALITY VIS-A-VIS RWANDAN BELLIGERENTS.

-- THEY SINCERELY WISH FOR A RETURN OF PEACE IN RWANDA AND A HALT TO THE KILLINGS. RWANDAN PROTAGONISTS SHOULD RE-START POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS BASED ON THE ARUSHA ACCORDS.

-- BURUNDI'S CONTRIBUTION: (1) AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL IS TO HELP RWANDAN POLITICAL/MILITARY INTERLOCUTORS TO FIND A WORKABLE SOLUTION. BURUNDI LEADERS HAVE WORKED TOWARDS THAT END IN INFORMAL CONTACTS AND IN THE FORMAL SETTING OF THE OAU TUNIS SUMMIT AND WILL CONTINUE SUCH EFFORTS. (2) ALONG WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, BURUNDI IS COMMITTED TO ASSIST IN HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS (I.E., FOOD, SHELTER, MEDICINE, ETC.) FOR RWANDA --

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-- THEY RECOMMENDED TO THE GOF (AND COMMEND TO THEIR SUPPORTERS) THAT THE USG-INSPIRED "PROTECTIVE ZONES" BE ESTABLISHED IN RWANDA, AS IS INTENDED BY UNAMIR II.

5. GIVEN YESTERDAY'S DEMONSTRATION, CHARGE ASKED NGENDAHAYO  
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HIS OVERALL PERSPECTIVE ON BURUNDIAN REACTIONS TO THE FRENCH INITIATIVE. THE MINISTER EXPRESSED NO/NO UNDUE CONCERNS ABOUT LOCAL REACTIONS. HE CONVEYED THE SENSE THAT THE OPPOSITION (WHO PLAN A LARGE DEMONSTRATION THIS AFTERNOON) WERE MORE PREOCCUPIED WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION ISSUE. NGENDAHAYO, LIKE PM KANYENKIKO LAST WEEK, THOUGHT INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN BURUNDI POLITICAL PARTIES HOLD SOME (MODEST) ENCOURAGEMENT AT THE MOMENT. CHARGE URGED HIM AND HIS COLLEAGUES TO CONTINUE THE IMPORTANT DIALOGUE, AS HE HAD SUGGESTED FOR RWANDANS. CHARGE PROMISED THAT WE (DIPLOMATS) WOULD CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO SUPPORT THAT PEACEFUL PROCESS.

6. COMME  
NT: NGENDAHAYO STATED BURUNDI'S POSITION CLEARLY AND SUCCINCTLY WHICH I TOOK AS REFLECTING THE CARE WITH WHICH IT HAD BEEN HAMMERED OUT. WHILE I DID NOT PRESS THE QUESTION WITH HIM, IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE "COLLECTIVE" DECISION RECOMMENDED THAT FRANCE, LIKE UNAMIR II, ESTABLISH THE PROTECTIVE ZONES. IS THIS A TACIT OKAY? END COMMENT.

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